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- (54) **DATA STORAGE DEVICE EMPLOYING VARIABLE SIZE INTERLEAVE WRITTEN TRACK SEGMENTS**
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See application file for complete search history.
- (56) **References Cited**

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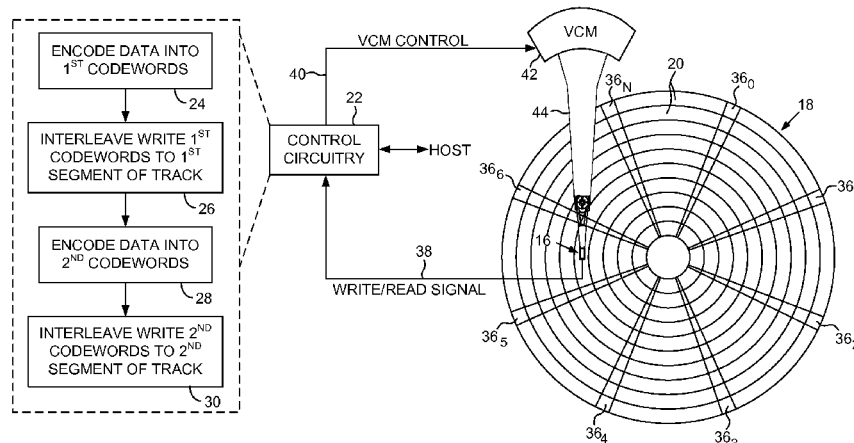
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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A data storage device is disclosed comprising a head actuated over a disk comprising a plurality of data tracks. Data is encoded into a first number of codewords, and the first number of codewords are interleave written to a first segment of a first data track. Data is encoded into a second number of codewords, and the second number of codewords are interleave written to a second segment of the first data track. The first number of codewords is different than the second number of codewords, and a size of the first segment is different than a size of the second segment.

**14 Claims, 4 Drawing Sheets**



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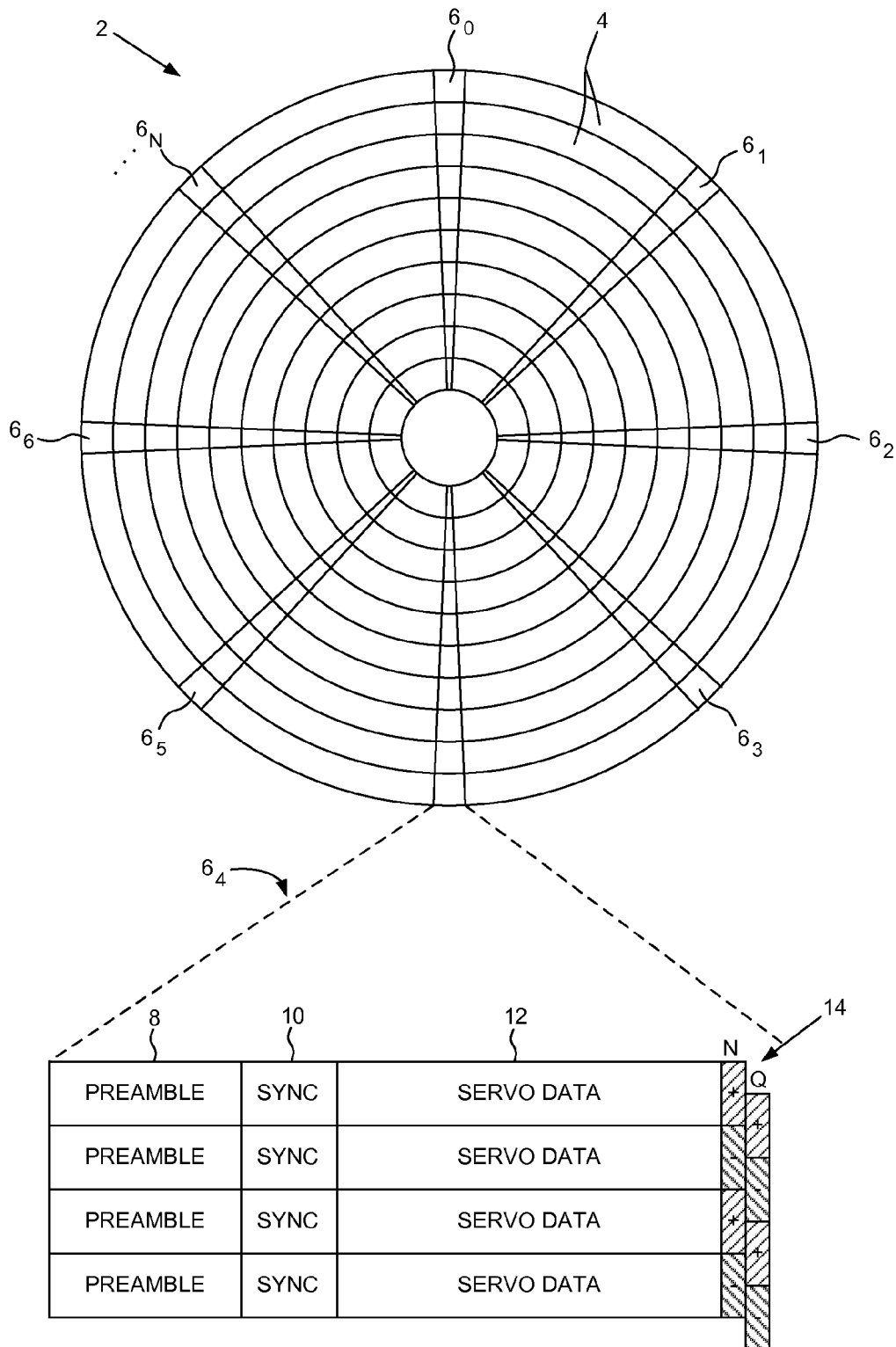


FIG. 1  
(Prior Art)

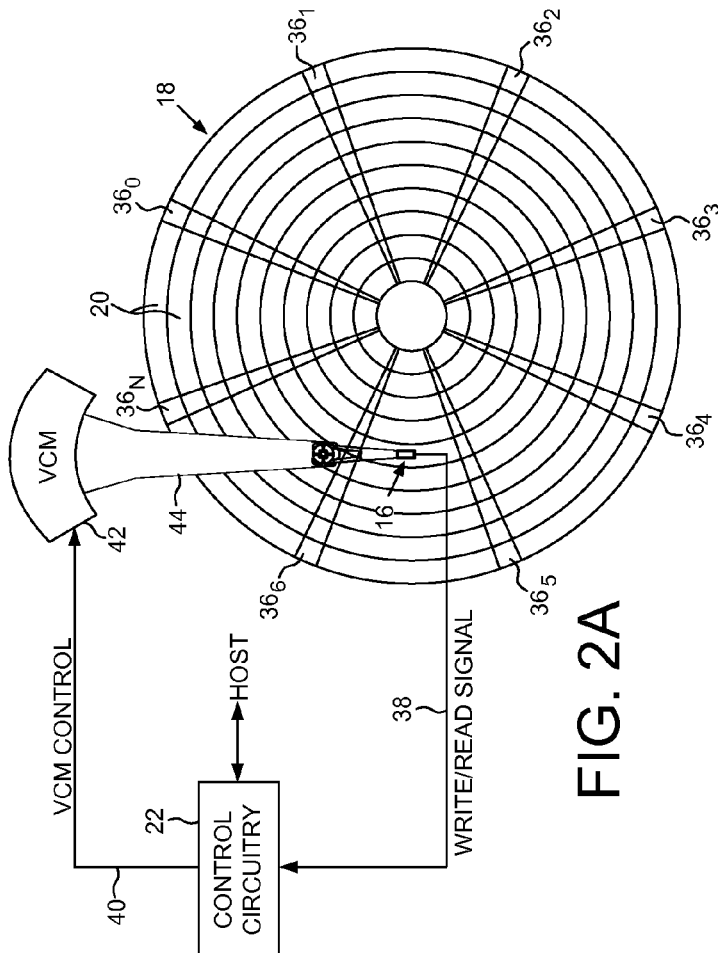


FIG. 2A

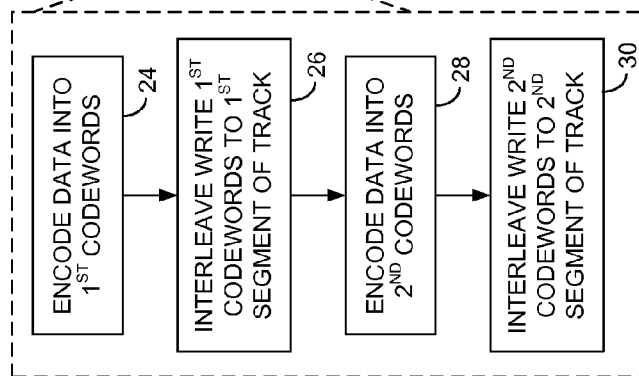


FIG. 2B

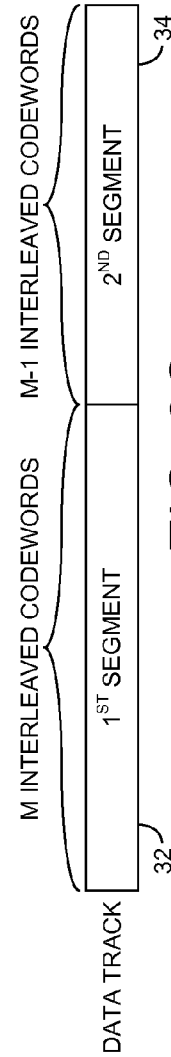
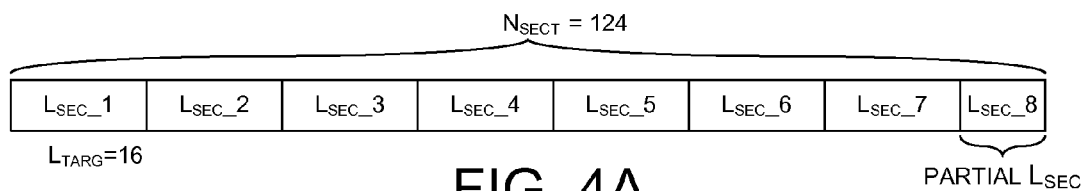
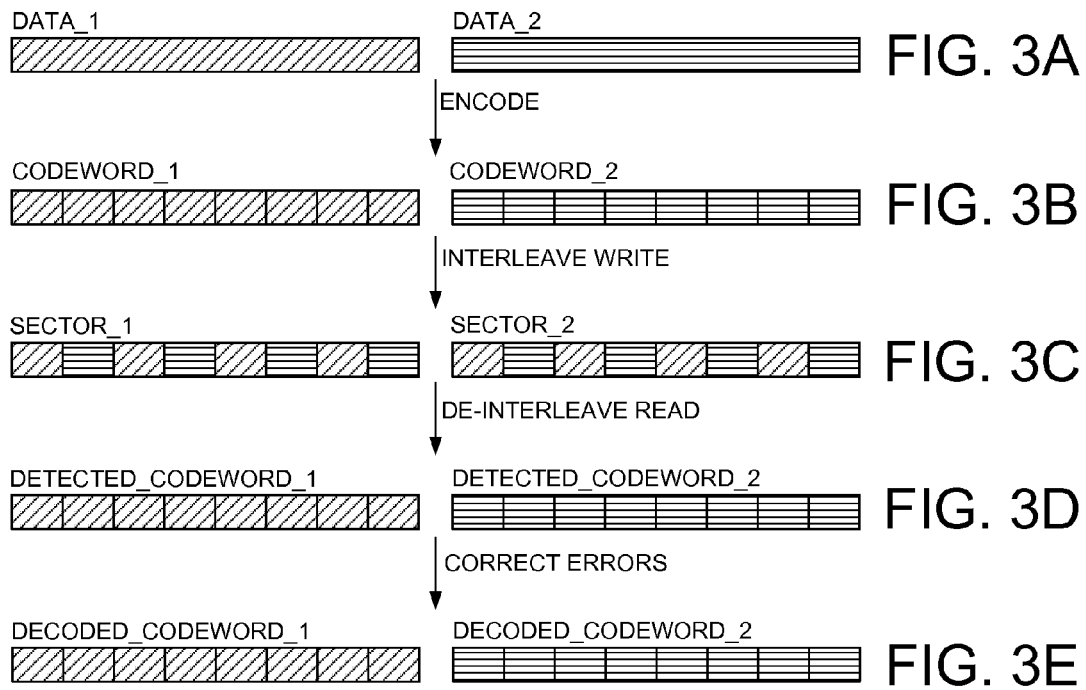
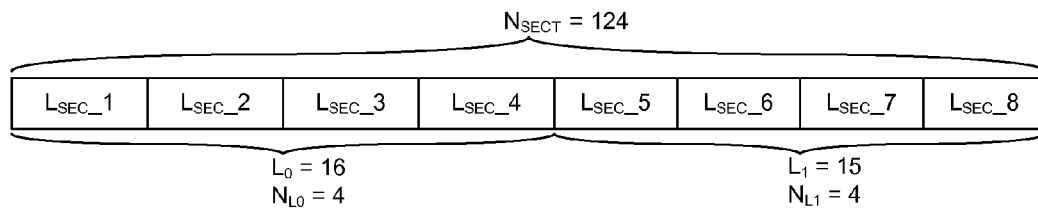


FIG. 2C



**FIG. 4A**  
(Prior Art)



**FIG. 4B**

$$L_0 = L_{targ} - \left\lfloor \frac{(L_{targ} - (N_{sect} \bmod L_{targ})) \bmod L_{targ}}{\left\lfloor \frac{N_{sect}}{L_{targ}} \right\rfloor} \right\rfloor$$

$$L_1 = L_0 - 1$$

$$N_{L1} = ((L_{targ} - (N_{sect} \bmod L_{targ})) \bmod L_{targ}) \bmod \left\lceil \frac{N_{sect}}{L_{targ}} \right\rceil$$

$$N_{L0} = \left\lceil \frac{N_{sect}}{L_{targ}} \right\rceil - N_{L1}$$

FIG. 5



# DATA STORAGE DEVICE EMPLOYING VARIABLE SIZE INTERLEAVE WRITTEN TRACK SEGMENTS

## BACKGROUND

Data storage devices such as disk drives comprise a disk and a head connected to a distal end of an actuator arm which is rotated about a pivot by a voice coil motor (VCM) to position the head radially over the disk. The disk comprises a plurality of radially spaced, concentric tracks for recording user data sectors and servo sectors. The servo sectors comprise head positioning information (e.g., a track address) which is read by the head and processed by a servo control system to control the actuator arm as it seeks from track to track.

FIG. 1 shows a prior art disk format 2 as comprising a number of servo tracks 4 defined by servo sectors 6<sub>0</sub>-6<sub>N</sub> recorded around the circumference of each servo track. Each servo sector 6<sub>i</sub> comprises a preamble 8 for storing a periodic pattern, which allows proper gain adjustment and timing synchronization of the read signal, and a sync mark 10 for storing a special pattern used to symbol synchronize to a servo data field 12. The servo data field 12 stores coarse head positioning information, such as a servo track address, used to position the head over a target data track during a seek operation. Each servo sector 6<sub>i</sub> further comprises groups of servo bursts 14 (e.g., N and Q servo bursts), which are recorded with a predetermined phase relative to one another and relative to the servo track centerlines. The phase based servo bursts 14 provide fine head position information used for centerline tracking while accessing a data track during write/read operations. A position error signal (PES) is generated by reading the servo bursts 14, wherein the PES represents a measured position of the head relative to a centerline of a target servo track. A servo controller processes the PES to generate a control signal applied to a head actuator (e.g., a voice coil motor) in order to actuate the head radially over the disk in a direction that reduces the PES.

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 shows a prior art disk format comprising servo tracks defined by servo sectors.

FIG. 2A shows a data storage device in the form of a disk drive according to an embodiment comprising a head actuated over a disk comprising a plurality of data tracks.

FIG. 2B is a flow diagram according to an embodiment wherein a first number of codewords are interleaved written to a first segment of a first data track and a second number of codewords are interleaved written to a second segment of the first data track, where a size of the first segment is different than a size of the second segment.

FIG. 2C shows an embodiment wherein the first segment is interleaved written with M codewords, and the second segment is interleaved written with M-1 codewords.

FIGS. 3A-3E illustrate an interleaved write operation and a de-interleaved read operation according to an embodiment.

FIG. 4A shows a prior art technique for interleaved writing segments (L<sub>s</sub> sectors) of a data track, wherein the last L<sub>s</sub> sector of the data track is written as a partial L<sub>s</sub> sector due to the number of sectors in the data track being a non-integer multiple of the L<sub>s</sub> sector size.

FIG. 4B illustrates an embodiment wherein a data track is written with two different size L<sub>s</sub> sectors so that an integer number of L<sub>s</sub> sectors may be written to the data track.

FIG. 5 shows equations according to an embodiment for computing the size and number of the L<sub>s</sub> sectors written to a data track.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

FIG. 2A shows a data storage device in the form of a disk drive according to an embodiment comprising a head 16 actuated over a disk 18 comprising a plurality of data tracks 20. The disk drive further comprises control circuitry 22 configured to execute the flow diagram of FIG. 2B, wherein data is encoded into a first number of codewords, (block 24) and the first number of codewords are interleaved written to a first segment of a first data track (block 26). Data is encoded into a second number of codewords (block 28), and the second number of codewords are interleaved written to a second segment of the first data track (block 30). The first number of codewords is different than the second number of codewords, and a size of the first segment is different than a size of the second segment. For example, in an embodiment shown in FIG. 2C, the first segment 32 may be interleaved written with M interleaved codewords, and the second segment 34 may be interleaved written with M-1 interleaved codewords. Although the data track shown in FIG. 2C comprises two segments, the data track may comprise any suitable number of segments having any suitable size and ordered in the data track in any suitable manner.

In the embodiment of FIG. 2A, the disk 18 comprises a plurality of servo tracks defined by servo sectors 36<sub>0</sub>-36<sub>N</sub>, wherein the data tracks 20 are defined relative to the servo tracks at the same or different radial density. The control circuitry 22 processes a read signal 38 emanating from the head 16 to demodulate the servo sectors 36<sub>0</sub>-36<sub>N</sub> and generate a position error signal (PES) representing an error between the actual position of the head and a target position relative to a target track. The control circuitry 22 filters the PES using a suitable compensation filter to generate a control signal 40 applied to a voice coil motor (VCM) 42 which rotates an actuator arm 44 about a pivot in order to actuate the head 16 radially over the disk 18 in a direction that reduces the PES. The servo sectors 36<sub>0</sub>-36<sub>N</sub> may comprise any suitable head position information, such as a track address for coarse positioning and servo bursts for fine positioning. The servo bursts may comprise any suitable pattern, such as an amplitude based servo pattern or a phase based servo pattern.

In one embodiment, each data track 20 comprises a plurality of data sectors and each interleaved written segment comprises a plurality of the data sectors. Also in this embodiment, each data sector is capable of storing a full codeword; however, each data sector is interleaved written to store subparts of multiple codewords. An example of this embodiment is illustrated in FIGS. 3A-3E wherein in this example an interleaved written segment comprises two data sectors. Referring to FIGS. 3A and 3B, first data is encoded into a first codeword and second data is encoded into a second codeword. The codewords are divided into any suitable sized sub-parts, and the sub-parts are interleaved written to the first and second sectors of the segment as illustrated in FIG. 3C. During a read operation, the sub-parts of the codewords are read from the data sectors and de-interleaved into respective detected codewords as shown in FIG. 3D. The detected codewords are then decoded into their respective decoded codewords representing the originally recorded data as shown in FIG. 3E. In this manner, when a data sector in the data track comprises a long defect each codeword may still be recoverable during a read operation if the correction power of any single codeword is not exceeded.

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Each segment shown in FIG. 2C may comprise any suitable number of data sectors. For example, in an embodiment described below, the first segment 32 of FIG. 2C may comprise 16 data sectors and therefore store 16 interleaved written codewords. This embodiment may further increase the overall correction power by spreading one or more long defects in a data track over 16 codewords. In one embodiment, there is a target or ideal size for each segment (e.g., 16 data sectors) wherein the segment size of at least one segment is reduced from the target size to ensure each data track stores an integer number of segments.

FIG. 4A illustrates a prior art technique for interleave writing segments (referred to as  $L_{\text{sectors}}$ ) of a data track with each  $L_{\text{sector}}$  having one size (16 data sectors in this example). The data track in this example comprises 124 data sectors ( $N_{\text{sect}}=124$ ) and therefore is capable of storing 7 full  $L_{\text{sectors}}$  ( $7 \times 16 = 112$ ) plus a partial  $L_{\text{sector}}$  ( $124 - 112 = 12$  data sectors) at the end of the data track. In this example, the last 4 data sectors of the last  $L_{\text{sector}}$  may be written to the next data track which is undesirable.

FIG. 4B illustrates an embodiment that avoids writing a partial  $L_{\text{sector}}$  to a data track as shown in FIG. 4A by writing different size segments (different size  $L_{\text{sectors}}$ ) to the data track. In the example of FIG. 4B, the data track comprising 124 data sectors is configured to store 4 first size  $L_{\text{sectors}}$  (each storing 16 data sectors) and 4 second size  $L_{\text{sectors}}$  (each storing 15 data sectors). In this manner the data track is configured to store an integer number of  $L_{\text{sectors}}$  ( $4 \times 16 + 4 \times 15 = 124$ ). In one embodiment, it is possible to configure a data track to store a number  $N_{L_0}$  of first size  $L_{\text{sectors}}$  (of size  $L_0$  data sectors) and store a number  $N_{L_1}$  of second size  $L_{\text{sectors}}$  (of size  $L_1$  data sectors), where  $L_1 = L_0 - 1$ . In the example of FIG. 4B,  $L_0 = 16$  and  $L_1 = 15$ ; however, using the equations shown in FIG. 5 it is possible to configure a data track such that  $L_1 = L_0 - 1$  regardless as to the size of  $L_0$ . In the equations of FIG. 5,  $L_{\text{targ}}$  represents the target (or ideal) size of the first segment (i.e., the target size of  $L_0$ ). The actual size of  $L_0$  depends on the number  $N_{\text{sect}}$  of data sectors (non-defective data sectors) of the data track. The equations of FIG. 5 utilize the floor operator  $\lfloor x \rfloor$  which rounds down to the nearest integer, and the ceiling operator  $\lceil x \rceil$  which rounds up to the nearest integer.

In one embodiment, the control circuitry 22 is configured to compute  $L_0$ ,  $N_{L_0}$  and  $N_{L_1}$  on the fly using the equations of FIG. 5 when executing a write command based on the parameters  $L_{\text{targ}}$  and  $N_{\text{sect}}$  which are known a priori for each data track. That is, prior to executing a write command to a target data track, the number and size of the segments ( $L_{\text{sectors}}$ ) is configured on-the-fly for the target data track. Similarly, in one embodiment the control circuitry is configured to compute  $L_0$ ,  $N_{L_0}$  and  $N_{L_1}$  on the fly when executing a read command based on the parameters  $L_{\text{targ}}$  and  $N_{\text{sect}}$  for the target data track. In this manner, the control circuitry 22 need only store the parameters  $L_{\text{targ}}$  and  $N_{\text{sect}}$  for each data track in order to configure write operations as well as read operations for each data track even though each data track may be configured to store a specific number and size of segments ( $L_{\text{sectors}}$ ).

Any suitable control circuitry may be employed to implement the flow diagrams in the above embodiments, such as any suitable integrated circuit or circuits. For example, the control circuitry may be implemented within a read channel integrated circuit, or in a component separate from the read channel, such as a disk controller, or certain operations described above may be performed by a read channel and others by a disk controller. In one embodiment, the read channel and disk controller are implemented as separate inte-

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grated circuits, and in an alternative embodiment they are fabricated into a single integrated circuit or system on a chip (SOC). In addition, the control circuitry may include a suitable preamp circuit implemented as a separate integrated circuit, integrated into the read channel or disk controller circuit, or integrated into a SOC.

In one embodiment, the control circuitry comprises a microprocessor executing instructions, the instructions being operable to cause the microprocessor to perform the flow diagrams described herein. The instructions may be stored in any computer-readable medium. In one embodiment, they may be stored on a non-volatile semiconductor memory external to the microprocessor, or integrated with the microprocessor in a SOC. In another embodiment, the instructions are stored on the disk and read into a volatile semiconductor memory when the disk drive is powered on. In yet another embodiment, the control circuitry comprises suitable logic circuitry, such as state machine circuitry.

In various embodiments, a disk drive may include a magnetic disk drive, an optical disk drive, etc. In addition, while the above examples concern a disk drive, the various embodiments are not limited to a disk drive and can be applied to other data storage devices and systems, such as magnetic tape drives, solid state drives, hybrid drives, etc. In addition, some embodiments may include electronic devices such as computing devices, data server devices, media content storage devices, etc. that comprise the storage media and/or control circuitry as described above.

The various features and processes described above may be used independently of one another, or may be combined in various ways. All possible combinations and subcombinations are intended to fall within the scope of this disclosure. In addition, certain method, event or process blocks may be omitted in some implementations. The methods and processes described herein are also not limited to any particular sequence, and the blocks or states relating thereto can be performed in other sequences that are appropriate. For example, described tasks or events may be performed in an order other than that specifically disclosed, or multiple may be combined in a single block or state. The example tasks or events may be performed in serial, in parallel, or in some other manner. Tasks or events may be added to or removed from the disclosed example embodiments. The example systems and components described herein may be configured differently than described. For example, elements may be added to, removed from, or rearranged compared to the disclosed example embodiments.

While certain example embodiments have been described, these embodiments have been presented by way of example only, and are not intended to limit the scope of the inventions disclosed herein. Thus, nothing in the foregoing description is intended to imply that any particular feature, characteristic, step, module, or block is necessary or indispensable. Indeed, the novel methods and systems described herein may be embodied in a variety of other forms; furthermore, various omissions, substitutions and changes in the form of the methods and systems described herein may be made without departing from the spirit of the embodiments disclosed herein.

What is claimed is:

1. A data storage device comprising:

a disk comprising a plurality of data tracks;

a head; and

control circuitry configured to:

encode data into a first number of codewords;

interleave write the first number of codewords to a first segment of a first data track;

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- encode data into a second number of codewords; and  
interleave write the second number of codewords to a  
second segment of the first data track;  
wherein the first number is different than the second  
number and a size of the first segment is different than  
a size of the second segment. 5
2. The data storage device as recited in claim 1, wherein:  
the first data track comprises an integer number  $N_{sect}$  of  
data sectors;  
the first segment comprises a first integer  $L_0$  of the data  
sectors; and 10  
the second segment comprises a second integer  $L_1$  of the  
data sectors.
3. The data storage device as recited in claim 2, wherein the  
second segment comprises one less data sector than the first  
segment. 15
4. The data storage device as recited in claim 3, wherein the  
control circuitry is further configured to compute  $L_0$  accord-  
ing to:

$$L_0 = L_{targ} - \left\lfloor \frac{(L_{targ} - (N_{sect} \bmod L_{targ})) \bmod L_{targ}}{\left\lceil \frac{N_{sect}}{L_{targ}} \right\rceil} \right\rfloor \quad 25$$

where  $L_{targ}$  represents a target number of data sectors for  
the first segment.

5. The data storage device as recited in claim 4, wherein the  
first data track comprises an integer  $N_{L0}$  of the first segments  
and an integer  $N_{L1}$  of the second where: 30

$$N_{L1} = ((L_{targ} - (N_{sect} \bmod L_{targ})) \bmod L_{targ}) \bmod \left\lceil \frac{N_{sect}}{L_{targ}} \right\rceil. \quad 35$$

$$N_{L0} = \left\lceil \frac{N_{sect}}{L_{targ}} \right\rceil - N_{L1}$$

6. The data storage device as recited in claim 5, wherein the  
control circuitry is further configured to compute  $L_0$ ,  $N_{L0}$  and  
 $N_{L1}$  on the fly when executing a write command. 40

7. The data storage device as recited in claim 5, wherein the  
control circuitry is further configured to compute  $L_0$ ,  $N_{L0}$  and  
 $N_{L1}$  on the fly when executing a read command. 45

8. A method of operating a data storage device, the method  
comprising:

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- encoding data into a first number of codewords;  
interleave writing the first number of codewords to a first  
segment of a first data track on a disk;  
encoding data into a second number of codewords; and  
interleave writing the second number of codewords to a  
second segment of the first data track on the disk;  
wherein the first number is different than the second num-  
ber and a size of the first segment is different than a size  
of the second segment.

9. The method as recited in claim 8, wherein:  
the first data track comprises an integer number  $N_{sect}$  of  
data sectors;  
the first segment comprises a first integer  $L_0$  of the data  
sectors; and  
the second segment comprises a second integer  $L_1$  of the  
data sectors.

10. The method as recited in claim 9, wherein the second  
segment comprises one less data sector than the first segment.

11. The method as recited in claim 10, further comprising  
computing  $L_0$  according to: 20

$$L_0 = L_{targ} - \left\lfloor \frac{(L_{targ} - (N_{sect} \bmod L_{targ})) \bmod L_{targ}}{\left\lceil \frac{N_{sect}}{L_{targ}} \right\rceil} \right\rfloor$$

where  $L_{targ}$  represents a target number of data sectors for  
the first segment.

12. The method as recited in claim 11, wherein the first data  
track comprises an integer  $N_{L0}$  of the first segments and an  
integer  $N_{L1}$  of the second segments where:

$$N_{L1} = ((L_{targ} - (N_{sect} \bmod L_{targ})) \bmod L_{targ}) \bmod \left\lceil \frac{N_{sect}}{L_{targ}} \right\rceil.$$

$$N_{L0} = \left\lceil \frac{N_{sect}}{L_{targ}} \right\rceil - N_{L1}$$

13. The method as recited in claim 12, further comprising  
computing  $L_0$ ,  $N_{L0}$  and  $N_{L1}$  on the fly when executing a write  
command.

14. The method as recited in claim 12, further comprising  
computing  $L_0$ ,  $N_{L0}$  and  $N_{L1}$  on the fly when executing a read  
command.

\* \* \* \* \*